



## RESOLUTION

ESTABLISHING A COUNCIL POLICY CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SENIOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMPLEX ON A CITY-OWNED PARCEL LOCATED ON RIVER STREET.

WHEREAS, in January 2010, the Council adopted Resolution 09-364, CD1, which requested that the City Administration prepare a Special Area Plan for the Chinatown areas, noting that a Special Area Plan would provide numerous benefits, such as:

- Providing guidance in maintaining and enhancing the integrity, culture, and character of the Chinatown community and its Chinese and Asian heritage and in implementing the Chinatown Special Design District policies;
- Identifying projects, programs, and services that encourage a self-sufficient, residential-commercial mixed use community, assist in implementing long-range planning, and promote a healthy, stable and family-oriented community; and
- Requiring the City, as part of the preparation of the Special Area Plan, to seek and include the participation of community organizations including but not limited to, the Downtown Neighborhood Board No. 13, the United Chinese Society, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, and the Concerned Citizens of River Street Housing;

and

WHEREAS, in March 2010, the Concerned Citizens of River Street Housing spearheaded a rally for the Chinatown community with over 200 attendees at the Chinatown Cultural Plaza, during which community leaders presented a low-rise senior affordable housing complex as an alternative to the Housing First homeless project on the River Street site that had been proposed by the City Administration; and

WHEREAS, in June 2010, the Council adopted Ordinance 10-12, which appropriated \$6.7 million in FY 2011 to develop the "River Street Residences" with the following condition: "No funds shall be expended for construction until the City actively works in partnership with the Chinatown community on the development of affordable housing on River Street, considers their concerns in the project design and operations, including consideration of other public and financing options in the Request for Proposals or other procurement instrument for this project"; and



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WHEREAS, in September 2013, the Council adopted Resolution 13-167, CD1, FD1, which requested that the City Administration provide an update on its actions to develop a senior affordable housing complex on River Street in collaborative partnership with the Chinatown Community; and

WHEREAS, in January 2014, the City Administration submitted its response (Mayor's Message 8 (2014)) to Resolution 13-167, CD1, FD1, which supported the broad recommendation to explore different types of developments in the River Street area including senior residential units that would benefit low and moderate income persons; and

WHEREAS, the development on River Street of a senior affordable housing complex with a low-rise multicultural community center has been widely supported by over 90 Chinatown community organizations and unanimously approved by Neighborhood Board No. 13, because such a development would not only preserve and enhance Chinatown's character and the surrounding low-rise frontages along River Street, but also enforce the important cultural aspect of taking care of the surrounding community and its seniors; and

WHEREAS, such a development would implement a key point of the City's 2006 "Rediscovering Chinatown Honolulu" plan, namely prioritizing the building of affordable housing in the City's efforts to revitalize Chinatown:

"... our first priority addresses the basic customer needs of the Chinatown district. In doing so, we have outlined six key issues that should be resolved by City or State government. This is the essential first step. Ignoring this objective and the respective issues would be inefficient and unproductive.... It is important to note that solutions for these issues must address real and perceived problems and that the resolution of these issues will be transparent: parking, cleanliness, safety, public facilities, affordable housing, regulations/ordinances."

; and

WHEREAS, the City's 2012 "Honolulu Chinatown Riverwalk Revitalization and Downtown Connectivity Study" further identified ways to improve the social, economic and environmental quality of Honolulu's Chinatown and Nuuanu Stream Corridor; and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that the development of a senior affordable housing complex with a multicultural community center is in the best interests of the community and the City, and has received widespread support from the surrounding residents; now, therefore,



## RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that it establishes a Council policy stating that it will not support a Request for Proposal ("RFP") concerning a city-owned parcel located on River Street unless such RFP includes the development of a senior affordable housing complex with a low-rise community center as specified in Resolution 13-167, CD1, FD1; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director, the Director of Community Services, the Downtown Neighborhood Board No. 13, the United Chinese Society, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, the Chinatown Community Center Association, and the Concerned Citizens of River Street Housing.

INTRODUCED BY:

Carol Fukunaga

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DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

February 13, 2014  
Honolulu, Hawaii

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Councilmembers

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
HONOLULU, HAWAII  
CERTIFICATE

**RESOLUTION 14-34, CD1**

Introduced: 02/13/14 By: CAROL FUKUNAGA

Committee: BUDGET

Title: RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A COUNCIL POLICY CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SENIOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMPLEX ON A CITY-OWNED PARCEL LOCATED ON RIVER STREET.

Voting Legend: \* = Aye w/Reservations

02/26/14	BUDGET	CR-60 – RESOLUTION REPORTED OUT OF COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION AS AMENDED IN CD1 FORM.
03/12/14	COUNCIL	CR-60 AND RESOLUTION 14-34, CD1 WERE ADOPTED. 9 AYES: ANDERSON, CHANG, FUKUNAGA, HARIMOTO, KOBAYASHI, MANAHAN, MARTIN, MENOR, PINE.

I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this RESOLUTION.

  
BERNICE K. N. MAU, CITY CLERK

  
ERNEST Y. MARTIN, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER